



Resolution# 2020.9.1 - CCC Ethnic Studies Graduation Requirement: Katungi/Lopez/Mayasa (Updated October 5, 2020)

1st Reading: September 21, 2020

Move: Crocitti

Second: Primoza

Whereas, Fifty-one years ago, on March 20th, 1969, the California State University (CSU) system established the first and only school of Ethnic Studies in the nation, a result of the longest student-led strike in the nation at San Francisco State University, leading to all twenty-three (23) of the CSUs developing courses in Ethnic Studies; and

Whereas, Ethnic Studies is an interdisciplinary and comparative study of race and ethnicity with special focus on four historically defined racialized core groups: Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latina/o Americans; and

Whereas, Ethnic Studies offers a demonstrated benefit to all students to succeed academically, professionally and socially to build a more anti-racist, decolonial, and inclusive society beyond the classroom by providing the theoretical framework and tools necessary to understand the sources and address the impact of systemic & structural racism upon them and the society at large; and

Whereas, The Black Studies Department and the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department at San Diego Mesa College and San Diego City College are among the very first departments and programs to offer AA Degrees in Black Studies and Chicano Studies, and as the discipline experts in Ethnic Studies continue to offer as many as over 60 sections of courses per semester; and

Whereas, California is one of the most diverse states in the country with CCC graduates reflecting this diversity and, as the Leading College of Equity and Excellence, San Diego Mesa College is committed to intentional, institutional, and transformational education to close achievement gaps in access and ensure the success of all students, especially underrepresented student groups; and

Whereas, Governor Newsom signed AB1460 into law (August, 2020), making Ethnic Studies a requirement for all 23 Cal State University campuses and degrees. Efforts are also currently underway to pass legislation mandating Ethnic Studies in high schools. In fact, several school districts in California, including SDUSD (April, 2019) and LAUSD (August, 2020), have already adopted an Ethnic Studies requirement for high school graduation; and

Whereas, the state moves in the direction of cultivating more inclusive learning ecologies for all of our cultures and backgrounds, making it imperative that these and future graduates acquire the knowledge and skills relevant to their lived realities, future careers and life mastery; therefore be it

Resolved, the Academic Senate at San Diego Mesa College state publicly its support for specific Ethnic Studies requirements for California Community College degrees and AB 1440 transfer students; and be it also

Resolved, that the Academic Senate urge the Chancellor's office and the BoT of SDCCD to support specific Ethnic Studies requirements at California Community Colleges in alignment with ACR-71, the California State Legislature's support of Africana and Ethnic Studies departments and programs, to begin sincere conversations and implementing of Ethnic Studies requirements for SDCCD degrees and AB 1440 transfer students; and be it also

Resolved, that the Academic Senate at Mesa College work with other colleges to present and/or support a statewide resolution to the ASCCC's Fall Plenary urging the ASCCC to support specific Ethnic Studies requirements for all California Community Colleges; and be it also

Resolved, that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urges the statewide Academic Senate to amend Title V requirement in alignment with Cal State Ethnic Studies requirements as specified in AB1460.

Presented to the Academic Senate: September 21, 2020

Approved by the Academic Senate: October 5, 2020